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12 April 1950

MEMORANDUM TO: MANAGEMENT OFFICER

SUBJECT: Plan and Procedure for Operation of SOVMAT Pilot Project

1. Answering your request of 6 April for comments on the above subject:-

2. We think Section 2 should emphasize that U. S. Government laboratories and facilities are, as a general rule, to be utilized and only when unavailable should analyses be farmed out to private industry, i.e., use the Bureau of Standards, Langley Field, etc., rather than [redacted], etc., hence primary operational liaison contacts (Section 2c) should be handled by OCD and only when Government facilities are not available should they be

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3. Has anyone investigated if the Bureau of Standards could handle the whole job for CIA and when necessary, subcontract private industry?

4. We do not understand Section 13. We should think this would be an OSI function if an overall evaluation should be needed on several reports; or, if the reports were written by the Bureau of Standards et al, they could be circulated direct upon receipt by OCD.

5. Rather than a running commentary of duties I should think it would be clearer to list together all duties performed by one office i.e., add Section 4 onto Section 2, Section 5 onto Section 3, Section 7 onto Section 6, etc., but that is merely editorial.

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7. Maybe in Section 2b or in Section 1 would it not be well to indicate that the mechanism of the Scientific Intelligence Committee will be utilized in contacting the Intelligence Advisory Committee agencies as I understand that is the way OSI proposes to function in this matter?

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Note: Is COAPS expected to circularize the IAC agencies with or without a copy of this Plan and Procedure, bespeaking cooperation of those agencies through the Scientific Intelligence Committee or otherwise with a view towards setting up requirements and avoiding duplication and procurement? We think such a circular would be helpful and that the majority, at any rate, of the SOVMAT procurement will generally be in the scientific field so far as CIA is concerned.

PRESCOTT CHILDS, Chief  
Coordination, Operations  
and Policy Staff

cc: Exec.  
AD/ORE  
AD/OSI  
AD/OO  
AD/OCD

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